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Conservation Commission Minutes 12/20/2012

Arlington Conservation Commission
Minutes
December 20, 2012

Mr. Stevens called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m. in the second floor conference room of the Town Hall Annex. Present were Nathaniel Stevens, David White, Charles Tirone, Eileen Coleman, Curt Connors, Chris Naylor and Michelle Durocher of the Commission. Catherine Garnett, also of the Commission, was not present. Also present were Bruce Whelte, Gayle and Mark Namchuk and Paul McCarthy.

7:45 pm – Commission Business:

White/Coleman motioned to approve the **10/5 minutes** as written; motion passed unanimously.

White/Connors motioned to approve the **12/6 minutes** with edits; motion passed unanimously.

8pm – **Request for Determination of Applicability** – 64 Wright St, shed

Mr. Namchuk described the shed which is 16 by 8 feet and sits on concrete blocks over gravel. No large vegetation was removed, just vines, shrubs (probably honeysuckle and knotweed) and lots of debris.

Mrs. Namchuk agreed to plant one white cedar (arborvitae) near the wetland side of the yard, to restore habitat function if any was lost due to removing vines, shrubs. The arborvitae may also help to shade some of the area to discourage the Japanese Knotweed.

The Commission discussed whether a NOI would be required due to proximity to wetland, but decided that the impact is minor so a negative DOA with the two above conditions would be adequate.

The commission discussed that there is no approval of the wetland or other resource area boundary with its determination.

White/Naylor motioned that while the work was within an area of jurisdiction that no Notice of Intent was required; motion passed, with all but Mr. Connors approving. Mr. Connors explained that his negative vote was based upon his belief that the Commission regulations required the filing of an NOI and not with the shed itself.

Other Commission Business:

Mr. White met with the new tenant at the house at **Mt. Gilboa**. Mr. Murray is a local arborist and he wants to coordinate some donated stewardship tree work on the conservation property. Specifically he asked if two large pines near the house, which currently have large limbs over the roof of the house, should be trimmed, rather aggressively. Throughout the property there are Norway Maples and Buckthorn that could be removed. Mr. Murray also works on jobs where they are clearing property of native vegetation, which he can salvage and bring to this property, namely rhododendrons.

Mr. White will continue to coordinate this work and will draft an outline of what to do and what restrictions to suggest.

Mr. Whelte provided some past history of the Mt. Gilboa acquisition regarding the discovery of a British cannonball from the War of Independence on the property that helped sway the Town to secure the funds.

Ms. Beckwith visited **25 Gould Rd** in preparation for the review for a request for a Certificate of Compliance. She will forward the materials to the rest of the board for their review and input.

Mr. Stevens updated the Commission on the **Symmes** development regarding changes in the layout for the sales trailer. The wrong trees were cut down for the trailer, so in order to maximize the space, the trailer will be relocated to the side of the parking spaces instead of behind. White/Tirone motioned to approve the altered design; motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Stevens further reported that Clarissa Rowe also toured the area of rock fill, south of the assisted living facility and found walnut trees that will need protection in order to save them. The board should try to go see the location and be prepared to vote on this work at the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Corinna Beckwith
Commission Administrator